

# BETRAYED BY HIS DOG.

Pet Unwittingly Leads Officers to Arrest His Criminal Master.

St. Louis Republic.

It is owing to his fondness for a dog that George Woodstock, the notorious "King of the Coiners," is just now serving a sentence of fourteen years' penal servitude.

For close on a quarter of a century this remarkable man carried on his nefarious trade without ever having once been troubled by the police, an absolutely unique record so far as this particular branch of criminal industry is concerned.

At last, however, "from information received," the detectives got on his track. That is to say, they found out that he lived somewhere in Peckham, and that his "mint" was supposed to be in the borough. Inspector Fox, who had charge of the case, also discovered that he owned a favorite retriever dog named Nero.

Forthwith there was organized a most comprehensive as well as exhaustive local canine census. Every retriever dog in Peckham was followed home and the ostensible business carried on by its owner verified. But to no purpose. There were found to be some hundreds of bowwows of that particular breed in that particular district, but in every case the status of their possessors was found to be unimpeachable.

Then one day, quite by accident, Inspector Fox happened on a stray specimen of the species toddling along in the neighborhood of New Cross. "Nero! Nero!" called the officer, and the dog stopped, and looked up inquiringly. The detective bought him beef, made friends with him and followed him when he at last made for home.

A few inquiries convinced the Inspector that he had at last run his man to earth, but he had as yet no evidence to secure a conviction. So for weeks he watched and waited, cementing his friendship with the dog meanwhile. Then, when all was ripe for action, Woodstock, his wife and his child, were decoyed away for a day by one of Fox's secret agents, the detective let himself into the house with a skeleton key, and the now thoroughly complaisant retriever was led by his chain to the district in the borough wherein it was believed the mint they wanted was situated.

Arrived there the dog was released and told to find his master. Away he went, wagging his tail, and close behind him in a hansom followed Mr. Fox. Within a very few minutes the animal stopped before a house in a place known as the Triangle. "Do you know this dog?" inquired the officer of the tenant of the adjoining house. "Oh, yes," was the reply. "It's Nero. He belongs to the gentleman next door. He's an engraver, and he only comes to work two or three days a week."

Then indeed did the inspector feel assured that he had succeeded. For form's sake he had a look over the interior of the premises. But he was as certain as mortal man can be of what he was going to find there before ever he set foot across the threshold, and his expectations were fully realized. That very night Woodstock was arrested, unwittingly betrayed into the hands of his enemies by the one friend he trusted; and one, too, who would not have knowingly harmed a hair of his master's head.

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The census of Mexican Buddhists continues. By and by, they will become objects of interest to the local clergy.—London Herald.

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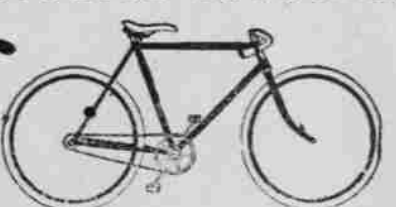
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